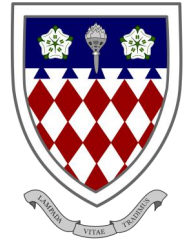


Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin

29th February 2024



In the last couple of weeks, much has been made of the Department for Education's February guidance on mobile phones in schools. The subtitle of the new guidance is called "prohibiting the use of mobile phones throughout the school day" and in the second paragraph of her opening letter, Gillian Keegan, the Secretary of State for Education says: *"Mobile phones risk unnecessary distraction, disruption and diversion. One in three secondary school pupils report that mobile phones are used in most lessons without permission. This not only distracts the single pupil using the phone, but disrupts the lesson for a whole class, and diverts teachers' efforts away from learning."*

Thankfully, due to our long standing position on mobile phones here at the High, we do not see the picture as described above during our school day. We have a student body for whom mobile phones can be an incredibly useful learning tool, whether that is as a camera for art projects or as a clinometer for angles in Maths and Geography. I am pleased that, at the High, we can trust our students to use their phones to support and enhance their learning rather than as a distraction and we will continue to allow them, when **given permission by their teacher**, to use their phones for the purpose of the lesson.

In the letter from the Secretary of State she goes on to say: *"Three in ten pupils cite making and maintaining friendships and their mental health as a cause of worry, anxiety or depression. By removing mobile phones, children and young people can spend more time staying active and socialising face to face with their peers, activities which have a positive impact on wellbeing. Schools can help children and young people develop these habits, which will in turn help them thrive outside of school."*

As a parent, I am sure, like me, you will recognise the sentiments of this opinion and that our children are growing up with challenges around technology that we (or at least I), did not have to deal with when I was their age. We have a strong commitment to safe technology education and mobile phone use here at the High School which although formally delivered through our PSHCE and Computing curriculum, is evident in the fabric of all that we do. Students are not permitted to use their phones at breaks and lunchtimes and it is a pleasure not to have them around to be frank. Instead of seeing young people facing downwards at their screens, our breaks and lunches are characterised by youngsters sitting around chatting and laughing, playing games and enjoying clubs and activities.

One thing that the DfE guidance does not seem to recognise is that not everyone lives in a large city where going to your local school might only involve a ten minute walk or five minute bus/car journey. More than 60% of our students travel for up to an hour to and from school every day, most of them on the school buses. Many have additional journeys walking through villages before they reach home. Whether our students have a ten minute walk through town to get home, or an hour on the school bus, I could not, in all conscience, have them make that journey without being able to contact a parent if they needed to in an emergency.

The DfE guidance also gives advice to school staff, who are not to use their phones for personal reasons in front of students. This is part of our staff code of conduct and has been for many years. The guidance does make exceptions for staff using their phones as part of multi-factor authentication to gain access to school systems. I wanted to raise this point, because as a school, we are in the process of introducing multi-factor authentication for a number of systems and staff have been given the choice of using their phone or a fob. I wanted to make this clear, in case any students suddenly wondered why so many staff will soon be using their phones to log on!

In short, our mobile phone rules will remain unchanged. Students may bring their phones to school with them but they are to be **locked in their locker** (not in bags/jackets), for the duration of the school day but, if given permission to use their phones by a member of staff, as a learning tool, they may do so.

The full DfE guidance can be found here: [Mobile phones in schools - February 2024 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1154212/mobile-phones-in-schools-february-2024.pdf)

M K Anderson, Headmistress

Student of The Week

Please find below the latest 'Student of the Week' nominations. Nominations can be made by both teaching and support staff and can be subject related or community focused.

Form	Student	Staff	Reason
7S	Emily Day	Mr Ganger	Mathematics
7S	Florence Wyatt	Mrs Lees	Library
8C	Katie Bonarius	Mrs Knowles	German
8N	Isabella Brook	Miss O'Sullivan	English
8N	Nagameenasri Gopinathan	Mrs C Lord	Mathematics
8P	Roxy Acton	Mrs Spinks	Mathematics
8S	Sarah Jones	Mrs Clay	French
9C	Jaz Steele	Miss Ashley	Further Mathematics
9J	Izzy Herring	Mrs J Lord	English Literature
9S	Emilia Tokarska Da Silva	Mrs Jones	Latin
10C	Ella Lynn	Mrs Martindale	Biology
10J	Ella Wilson	Mrs Cave	Religious Studies
10N	Daisy Davis	Mrs Lees	Community
10N	Naomi Harte	Mr Garbett	Music
10S	Vivien Kudla	Mrs Neal	Art
11J	Briony Sweeting	Mrs Aurikko	Biology
11S	Kaytie Lawson	Miss Bailey	German
6FM	Amilia Hudson	Mr Love	Law
6GD	Maisie Keeble	Mrs Rogers	Geography

School Uniform

Please can parents/carers ensure that items of school clothing are clearly labelled with name and form, as this allows any items misplaced to be returned to the correct student. In addition, please can parents/carers check that all items currently at home or in use are the correct ones and not the property of another student. Your support in returning any misplaced items would be greatly appreciated.

Week 9 - Challenge #9 - Answer

Here is the answer to the Challenge the Parent question from last week's Bulletin

Answer	Mark scheme
30	for $160 \div (3+7) (= 16)$ or $\frac{3}{3+7} (= \frac{3}{10})$ for "16" $\times 3 (= 48)$ or " $\frac{3}{10}$ " $\times 160 (= 48)$ for a correct step using 48 eg "48" $\div 8 (= 6)$ or "48" $\times 25 \div 100 (= 12)$ or (indep) for combining $\frac{1}{8}$ and 25%, eg $\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{4} (= \frac{3}{8})$ or "0.125" + "0.25" $(= 0.375)$ or "12.5" $(\%) + 25(\%) (= 37.5(\%))$ for a complete process to find the number of petrol cars, eg "48" - "6" - "12" oe or $(1 - \frac{3}{8}) \times 48$ oe or $\frac{3}{10} \times (1 - \frac{3}{8}) \times 160$ oe

Week 10 - Challenge #10

Solve $7x - 27 < 8$

Good Luck!

Sports News

Y10 Futsal

On Tuesday 20th February, the Y10 futsal team competed in a tournament at Haven High School. They played against Haven High, University Academy Holbeach, Bourne Academy, Bourne Grammar, Thomas Middlecott and Spalding Academy. A very composed team performance throughout the tournament meant they finished the day unbeaten, having won four games and drawn two, which has secured them a place in the County Finals.



U15 Football

On Tuesday 27th February, the U15 football team played against Priory Ruskin in Round 32 of the Sisters in Sport National Cup. A strong first half led us to being 3-1 up at half time with goals from Ivy, Lily and Ella. The second half began with a Spalding goal from Lily but saw increased pressure from the opposition to bring the game back to 4-3. Despite a nery final five minutes we managed to hold out and secure our place in the last 16 of the National Cup.



Miss Magnus, PE Department

Ski Trip 2024- Zauchensee, Austria

Over the February half-term 48 students and staff members made the journey from Spalding to Dover, catching a ferry to France and then continuing the long drive from Calais to Zauchensee in Austria. Road closures, service stops, driver swaps and delays in Germany and into Austria meant the journey took 30 hours in total! Upon arrival at the resort, we had dinner and walked down to the ski hire shop to get our boots, helmet and skis before getting a much needed night of sleep in an actual bed.

On Sunday after breakfast, we walked down to the slopes to begin the first of our five days of ski lessons. There were three beginners groups that had never skied before and one intermediate/advanced group that had previous skiing experience, each getting five hours of ski lessons (2 ½ hours in the morning and 2 ½ hours in the afternoon) each day.

For the beginners' groups, the first couple of days were on relatively flat parts of the slopes and moving up to the nursery slope once we could stop/start and turn well. Whereas the intermediate/advanced group were straight off down the blue slopes, often losing Mrs Busfield in the process.

Throughout the trip, there was an abundance of birthdays, celebrated with a tray of cupcakes and a dedicated happy birthday song on each of the days. Each day the ski group leaders had to award 'Ski Whizz and Ski Wally' to students in their group that skied well and made progress or had an unfortunate mishap or funny moment on the slopes. Both awards were presented during the evening activities, accompanied with an explanation and many funny stories for Wally nominations. This was a clear highlight of each day hearing what had happened in other groups and all having a good laugh about it, whether it was Miss Magnus falling over (again) or Mr Blackburn having a disagreement with the chairlift.

Sunday evening was the first of the evening entertainment. It was a quiz hosted by Miss Magnus with General Knowledge, Capital Cities, Music, Picture and Dingbat rounds, which rooms battled out to be crowned 'Ski Trip Quiz Champions 2024'. With two teams on joint marks there had to be two tiebreak questions to separate the eventual winners Room 402 from Room 304. Monday night saw Bingo host Mr Farrell excel with his use of bingo terminology including Knock at the door, 4; Heinz varieties, 57; Legs Eleven, 11.

Tuesday seems to have gone down as the most popular evening among students which was a music competition of the 'rooms' held in the hotels disco room with different rounds, each round winning room awarded a bar of Milka. The first round was 'continue the lyrics' where DJ Jonesy played a song and groups had to continue singing with the lyrics for as long as they could. The second was 'stay in time' where the song would play, pupils would have to continue singing along for 20 seconds whilst the volume was turned down to see how in time they were when it was turned back up, judged by the talented panel of Mr and Mrs Farrell and Mrs Busfield. The third and final round saw a serious contest between rooms for 'overall performance'. Students were told at dinner they needed to prepare a song and dance routine to be performed during the competition, this was taken much more seriously than we had anticipated. We had 'Murder on the Dancefloor' performed by Room 305 with Ruby carrying a cardboard dagger prop, slowly killing off the rest of the group. Room 306 performed 'Wannabe' with Grace wearing a blow up chicken costume, Ella doing the worm and Katie doing a round off. Room 402 amazed the judges with their Mamma-Mia performance, dance routine and very loud singing from students that were believed to be 'quiet' ones.

Following completion of the 'singing' there was a ski trip special 'YMCA' performance by the teachers, followed by a mass disco of dancefloor classics like 'Saturday Night' and the 'Macarena' which all students joined in with.

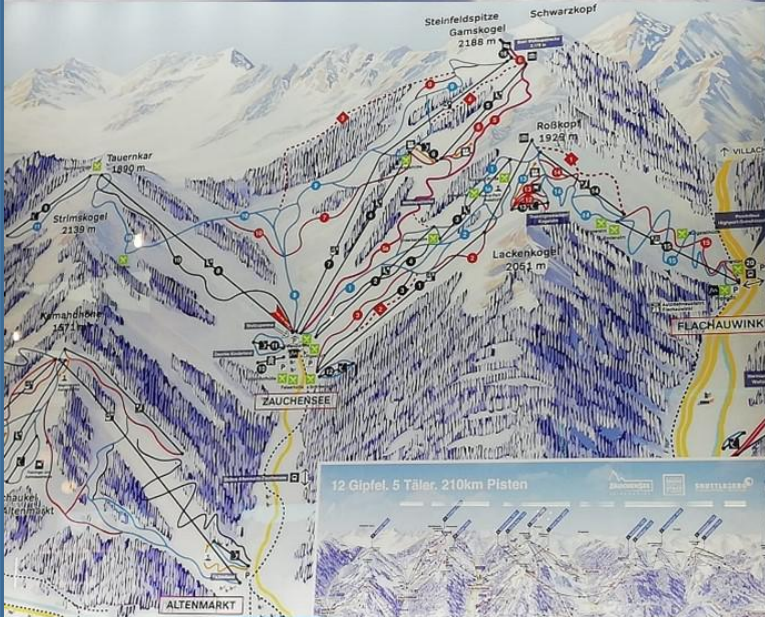
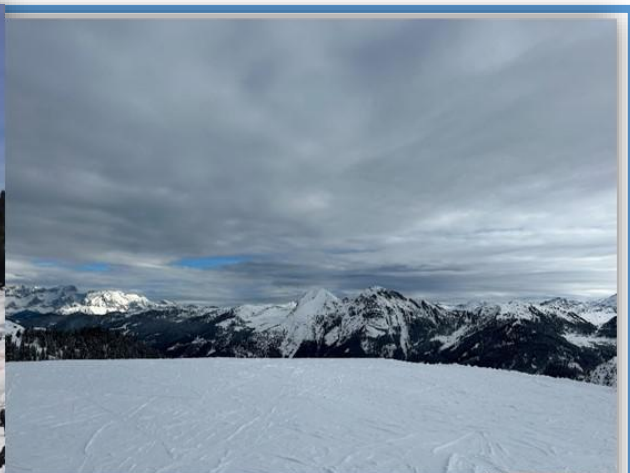
Wednesday night was 'room tidying with a twist', knowing we were leaving after dinner on Thursday, students were asked to ensure their suitcases and rooms were ready for departure, with inspections undertaken considering; neatness of beds/cases, readiness to depart, fragrance, tranquillity, good vibe, best welcome and best guided tour. Floor 4 gave the inspectors a very hard job of choosing their winner, as they were met with welcome chocolates, calming music, mood lighting, toiletries lined up and toilet roll swans. Floor 3 was not quite as competitive with a clear winner from the first inspection, greeting the inspectors with a sign language welcome as well as introductions in French, German and Chinese, towels folded on beds the shape of hearts, tour hoodies folded on pillows with names showing. It was a great evening, which masked the task of room tidying and suitcase packing with a bit of fun and incentive.

The students behaved impeccably and represented the School and its values brilliantly throughout the trip with their resilience, determination and empathy for one another. Everyone on the trip has made lifelong memories, built and grown friendships and spent a lot of time laughing.

<u>Ski Whizzes</u>	
Sunday	
Mrs Busfield/Mr Farrell	Holly
Miss Jones	Cyra
Miss Magnus	Amelia
Mr Blackburn/Mrs Farrell	Lucy
Monday	
Mrs Busfield/Mr Farrell	Kari-Ella & Florence
Miss Jones	Amber and Martyna
Miss Magnus	Ruby & Annabelle
Mr Blackburn/Mrs Farrell	Layla & Molly
Tuesday	
Mrs Busfield/Mr Farrell	Svisha & Darcey
Miss Jones	Tilly & Erin
Miss Magnus	Lexi & Paige
Mr Blackburn/Mrs Farrell	Ella & Teja
Wednesday	
Mrs Busfield/Mr Farrell	Freya & Scarlett
Miss Jones	Evie & Annabelle
Miss Magnus	Emelia & Veronika
Mr Blackburn/Mrs Farrell	Olivia
Thursday	
Mrs Busfield/Mr Farrell	Georgie & Annabel
Miss Jones	Nicola, Indie & Sehrish
Miss Magnus	Isabella & Lucy
Mr Blackburn/Mrs Farrell	Ruby & Bethany

Ski Wally's







Student Comments

My highlight of the trip was going down the blue slopes for the first time, particularly blue 11 because of how steep it was. Karaoke night was my favourite because everyone got involved and we were all singing and dancing together including the teachers. Overall the trip was amazing

Evie

Personally I found this trip really good as I have learnt so many new skills. We also faced many challenges and persevered throughout the trip to overcome them. Overall we all had a really good time and enjoyed it.

Lucy

The ski trip was a thrilling adventure for me, especially as I enjoyed my birthday there.

Cyra

The trip was really fun and we learnt lots of skills. The instructors were amazing and we couldn't believe how far we progressed from the first day.

Veronika

I really enjoyed this trip because I made loads of memories and had so much fun skiing but also in the evening activities. My instructor was very encouraging and helped develop my skiing a lot. The teachers were very funny, we all had so much fun.

Darcey

Ski Trip highlights-

Karaoke night (Teacher YMCA)

Blue slopes

Dutch candy from instructor

Friends falling over

Room tidying

Birthday cupcakes

Amber

Maths News

Our talented Mathematicians have recently been presented with certificates following their participation in a National Maths Challenge.

Each year the UK Mathematics Trust, a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics, run a junior, intermediate and senior maths challenge for students across the United Kingdom. The challenge is entered by many pupils each year and is the UK's biggest national maths competition. The top 40% being awarded Gold, Silver or Bronze certificates in the ratio of 1:2:3. This year our students achieved 7 gold, 24 silver and 46 bronze certificates.

Congratulations in particular go to:

- ◆ Briony Sweeting 11J - awarded gold and was joint best in School and qualified for Pink Kangaroo.
- ◆ Claude Ham 11J - awarded gold and qualified for Pink Kangaroo.
- ◆ Sophie Smith 10S - awarded gold and best in year
- ◆ Millie Atkins 9J - awarded gold, best in year, and qualified for the Grey Kangaroo

We were very pleased to receive so many certificates and we are really proud of all the students who took part in the challenge – Well done!

Good luck to those who will be sitting round two on Thursday 21st March 2024.

Mrs Nowak, Maths Department





Pastoral News



At Spalding High School , we recognise that our students' mental health and wellbeing can change all the time. Supporting a young person can feel really worrying, but it is important to know that there is lots of support out there. **Mind's young person's info hub** is full of advice to help young people and those around them understand what they are going through. Visit [mind.org.uk/young-people](https://www.mind.org.uk/young-people) to learn more.

Bright Horizons

BRIGHT HORIZONS

CALLING ALL YOUNG CARERS!!!

EVERY MONDAY

1:00 in G3

**COME ALONG TO MAKE YOUR
VERY OWN**

POSITIVE VEGETABLE



Mrs Davies, Pastoral Department

Fundraising News

Support Red Nose Day!

Friday 15th March is Red Nose Day, and we are asking students to wear non-school uniform (no inappropriate outfits & no offensive or political slogans to be worn) for a donation of £1 to help the numerous charities supported by Comic Relief. This is a great opportunity for us to come together as a school to raise some money to help people through the toughest times of their lives.

Mrs Ray, Assistant Headteacher



SHS HQ - Spring Competition

Dress your pet up in an Easter inspired costume, take a picture and send it to:
Imogen.neal@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

The winner will receive an Easter Chocolate treat and a pet toy for the pet for helping out!

Rules:

- Must be a physical costume not a filter, Photoshop or digital art
- Bonus points for homemade costumes
- Must provide a JPEG picture **no later than Friday 15th March**
- Cannot enter more than once
- Put your name, form and your pet's name in the email to Imogen.

Please remember that pets are very sensitive to some materials and so be careful what you use to make your costume and also that your pet might not like being dressed up and so do not force them.

Inspiration:



Photo credit Etsy.com



Photo credit PD.com.au



Photo credit Etsy.com



Photo credit Amazon.co.uk

Imogen Neal, 8P

Careers Update

Year 10 Work Experience – 25th-28th March

With a month to go ahead of Year 10 work experience, it is vital that students are checking their emails daily in case employers send important information regarding the placement. It is advisable for students to speak to their employer to ensure they have confirmed all the information they need to know, such as hours of work, dress code and who to report to on the first day. Students will receive a health and safety briefing in school during PSHCE on 29th February. If any students are asked to work later than 7.00pm, they need to email the dates and times to Mrs O'Brien.

Unifrog University Fair – Wednesday 13th March 4.30-7.00pm

For students in Years 10-12 who are considering going to university, Unifrog is hosting a virtual University Fair in the evening on 13th March. This will be an excellent opportunity for students and their parents/carers to gain an insight into topics such as student finance, contextual offers, subject spotlights and city or campus universities. Here is the registration link: [Unifrog UK University Fair \(vfairs.com\)](https://unifrog.com/vfairs.com)

InvestIn Career Taster Sessions

Please see the attachment on Page 14 of the Bulletin for registration for some interesting career taster sessions being hosted online in March by InvestIn. This is a great opportunity aimed at students aged 12-18 to find out about potential pathways, hear from employers and gain experience to add to CVs.

Inspire Inclusion – Army Apprenticeships and Careers Webinar – Ideal for students in Years 9-13

In celebration of International Women's Day (8th March), the British Army is hosting a webinar on 5th March 4.00-5.00pm to inspire the next generation about career opportunities available through the Army. Seven different career streams will be represented: Medical, Intelligence & Communications, HR & Finance, Combat, Logistics & Support, Engineering and Music. Here is the registration link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Support:

As always, we can be contacted by email if parents/carers or students in any year group have any queries:

Dawn.bushell@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Lucy.obrien@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Mrs Bushell, Careers Leader



Free Career Tasters

Online workshops dedicated to giving students a taste of their potential future career

Learn More

We are delighted to announce that we will be hosting a series of free career tasters for students aged 12-18.

Ahead of National Careers Week, we will be hosting another series of free online career tasters for students aged 12-18.

These interactive sessions serve as a great introduction to a range of industries, while giving students an opportunity to hear from a professional and participate in an interactive career simulation.

Please encourage your students to bring any questions they may have to the webinars - we're here to help them on every step of their career journey.

If students are unable to join live, they can still register to receive the recording and our follow up resources.

Sign Up Here

Career Taster Schedule

Not sure which webinar to choose?

Signing up to multiple webinars is a great way for students to explore different careers and find out where their interests lie!



12th March : 6pm

Breaking into Creative Arts

Breaking into Psychology

13th March : 6pm

Breaking into Engineering

Breaking into Law

14th March : 6pm

Breaking into Medicine

Breaking into Banking



Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum

Free workshops -following on from the Week of SEND

We have lots of free workshops for **parents & professionals** on the LPCF membership, coming up over the next few months.

Popular topics such as SEND support and EHC's, Anxiety, Benefits, Toilet Skills and many more will be added to the workshop calendar.

Keep checking the events page of the LPCF website for more details. They will be added over the next few weeks. Book your place asap to avoid disappointment.

Coming up in March

Toilet Skills (Continence Issues)

Date: **Tuesday 12th March 11.30am – 1.00pm**

LPCF are pleased to offer the workshop delivered by the LCC Specialist Children's Continence Nurse.

The workshop will cover :-

- Toilet skills development - one step at a time, actions and goals, initial work and when to contact the 0-19 health team for support.
- Night time wetting
- Containment products and alternatives
- Periods and how to manage these when using containment products

Please book your place using the link above by 2nd March.

SEND Support and EHCP's

Date: **Tuesday 19th March 11.30am – 1.00pm**

Free Interactive workshop on Zoom with Liaise.

Following on from the well supported and rated LPCF "Week of SEND" LPCF have invited Liaise to explore the topic of SEND Support and EHCP's.

Liaise is Lincolnshire's Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).

They provide confidential and impartial information, advice and support to children and young people (0-25 years) with SEN and disabilities, and their parents and carers.

LPCF work closely with Liaise in supporting parents of children with SEND and have specifically asked them to provide this workshop to help empower families to have the SEND knowledge and understanding they need.

The Liaise staff:

- work at arm's length from the local authority and health services
- are trained in SEN and disability law
- work to national standards, so you know what to expect
- aim to empower families to have the SEND knowledge and understanding they need.

Please book your place by 9th March.

Link to Events page to book your place herewith:- https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_Events.php

Coralie & LPCF Team
LPCF
PO Box 1183
Spalding
PE11 9EE
07925 232 466



KEEP CALM
AND
HELP
YOUR HQ

The HQ meets weekly in the Sixth Form Study
Room:

Week 1 Wednesday 1.05pm

Week 2 Thursday 1.30pm